

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ROME 11677 181755Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-02

MC-02 DODE-00 EB-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 ERDA-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 ERDE-00 /092 W

-----102830 181845Z /50

O R 181622Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5946

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 203

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MMOL, US, SF

SUBJECT: ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

REF: STATE 165351

1. EMBASSY HAS NO RECORD, KNOWLEDGE NOR RECOLLECTION
OF ITALIAN ARMS SALES OR TRANSFERS RESEMBLING THOSE
OUTLINE REFTEL.

2. TO THE CONTRARY, EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT GOI AND ALL
SIGNIFICANT ITALIAN ARMS MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS ARE
FULLY AWARE OF AND, SO FAR AS IS KNOWN, HONOR USG
STRICTURES ON TRANSFERS, INCLUDING THOSE TO SOUTH AFRICA.
DESPITE THE OCCASIONAL PRESS STROY TO THE CONTRARY, WE
HAVE NOTHING TO SHOW THAT OTO MELARA AND AGUSTA ARE
NOT METICULOUS IN SEEKING USG PRIOR ASSENT FOR POSSIBLE
SALES, EVEN THOUGH USG RESPONSE HASBEEN ALMOST ALWAYS
NEGATIVE.

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3. EMBASSY QUOTED PARA. 2 OF REFTEL TO ROME OTO MELARA
OFFICE. RESPONSE WAS IMMEDIATE AND COMPREHENSIVE
DENIAL. ACCORDING TO SPOKESMAN, OTO MELARA
HAS RESPECTED THE LIMITATIONS SET BY
BOTH THE ITALIAN AND US GOVERNMENTS FOR M-113 AND M-109
155 MM SP GUNS, NEVER HAVING SOLD OR SHIPPED EITHER

WEAPON DIRECTLY OR, TO ITS KNOWLEDGE, INDIRECTLY TO
SOUTH AFRICA.

4. ROME SOCIALIST PAPER, L'AVANTI, ON JULY 16 CARRIED
A SHORT FACTUAL PIECE ON GERVASI TESTIMONY, ADDING
(UNHELPLESSLY) THAT A CHECK WITH THE ITALIAN FOREIGN
MINISTRY HAD ELECITED ONLY THE RESPONSE THAT THE MFA HAD
NO RESPONSIBILITY IN SUCH MATTERS SINCE ARMS EXPORTS
CONTROLS IN THE GOI WERE HANDLED BY OTHER MINISTERIES
(DEFENSE, FOREIGN TRADE AND FINANCE).
GARDNER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, ARMS EMBARGO, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME11677
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770256-0107
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770747/aaaaboga.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c1871d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 165351
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1828867
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA
TAGS: MMOL, US, SF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c1871d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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